

FELLOWSHIP OF THE KING: PHILIPPIANS 1:12-20

1. Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Paul could have easily become morose or dejected because of his present circumstances, yet he uses them joyfully for the cause of Christ. Share a time when you were encouraged by the life of a believer who powerfully used a negative life experience.
3. Paul faced strong opposition to the gospel from Emperor Nero (a man famous for setting Christians on fire as human torches at dinner parties) and his personal bodyguard, whom also guarded Paul. What opposition do you find yourself facing in your own evangelism?
4. How can Christian's develop the boldness and intentionality that Paul shows in sharing the Gospel?
5. In this passage we see Paul, although having devoted his life to the cause of Christ, beset on all sides by enemies. What lessons can you learn from Paul when you feel like the harder you try to be Christ-like the more opposition you face?
6. Paul writes confidently in verse 20 that he "will not be put to shame in anything". Is it possible for us to live lives free of shame? Why or why not?
7. It is easy for us to want to dictate how God should glorify Himself in our lives. How can we develop a heart like Paul's, which seeks not necessarily to be delivered *from* our problems, but be delivered *amid* those problems?